mesnts should ensure that special consideration is given to recruitment from minority communities.

11. In many areas recruitment is done through competitive examinations. Often minority groups have been handicapped in taking advantage of the educational system to compete on equal terms in such examinations. To help them to overcome those handicaps, steps should be taken to encourage the starting of coaching classes in minority educational institutions to train persons to compete successfully in these examinations.

12. The acquisition of technical skills by those minorities who are today lagging behind would also help in national development. Arrangements shoud be made to set up ITIs and polytechnics by Government or private agencies in predominently minority areas to encourage admission in such institutions of adequate number of persons belonging to these communities.

III. OTHER MEASURES

13. In various development programmes, including the 20-Point Programme, care should be taken to see that minorities secure in a fair and adquate measure the benefits flowing therefrom. In the various committees which are set up to oversee the implementation of such programmes, members of those communities should be actively involved.

14. Apart from the general issues to which I have referred there are various local problems which develop into needless irritants to minorities. For instance encroachment of Wakf properties and on graveyards have led to protests and grievances in some places, Suitable steps should be taken to deal with such problems on an expeditious and satisfactory basis.

15. Problems relating to minorities need to be atteded to on a continuing basis so that apprehensions are allayed and genuine grievances redressed. To facilitate this, a special cell will be created in the Ministry of Home Affairs to dea with matters reating to minorities.

Weaning out of children from hazardous employment

19. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of children weaning out from their hazardous employment and the amount spent thereon during the last three years; year wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): The employment of children below 14 years of age has been prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act in certain occupations and processes such as carpet weaving, manufacture of matches, fire works etc., though these have not been specifically defined as 'hazardous'. Under the National Child Labour Policy in some of these industries in areas where there is a concentration of child labour, Government has stated projects to benefit child workers and to wean them away from employment.

2300 children working in prohibited industries in these areas have been weaned away from employment by being admitted into special schools. The expenditure on this account during the last three years has been as follows:—

1986-87	Nil
1987-88	Rs. 0.42 lakhs
1988-89	Rs. 18.76 Lakhs